

Cristina Haworth

From: Dave Osmer <osmerdave@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:28 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Cc: Rick Aramburu; Leo Graham; Larry
Subject: FW: Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting - ISD Providence Heights Proposal
Attachments: PRJ19-00008_Critical Area Neighborhood Meeting FINAL Notice_2021-0415.pdf

Dear Ms. Haworth,

Pursuant to the attached notice, I am writing to provide comment on this upcoming meeting.

The document, "Meeting Handout," included in the documents listed in the agenda for the meeting, shows the "Critical Areas" which presumably are to be addressed during the session.

I am very concerned to see that the box next to "Streams" is not checked. I find it preposterous that Laughing Jacobs Creek is not considered to be a "critical area" impacted by this project.

The stormwater from the Providence Heights site will all flow into the creek. The School District claims that they are going to control the RATE of stormwater outflow from the site to no greater than the current rate. However, flow rate is only one factor in the equation impacting the amount of erosion that will flow into the creek, as well as from the streambed, and ultimately into Lake Sammamish. The other part of the equation is total VOLUME. And the volume will be increased dramatically since the site will become approximately two-thirds impervious surface if developed as proposed!

As you well know, this creek is a spawning habitat for the endangered Kokanee salmon. Failing to address the impacts of the proposed development at Providence Heights on this habitat is simply unacceptable.

I also find it unacceptable that I have seen no notice of this meeting in recent issues of the City's "Issaquah Insider" publication or in the City's "Development" notices to which I subscribe.

Thank you for your attention to these issues.

Yours truly,
William D. (Dave) Osmer
22433 SE Highland Lane
Issaquah

From: Cristina Haworth <cristinah@issaquahwa.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 9:12 AM
To: Cristina Haworth <cristinah@issaquahwa.gov>
Subject: Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting - ISD Providence Heights Proposal

Good morning,

You are receiving this email because you previously commented on Issaquah School District's (ISD) proposal to construct a new consolidated high school and elementary school campus at 4221 228th Avenue SE or you have requested to become a party of record for future applications related to this proposal. As part of the review process for ISD's submitted permit applications, the City is hosting an environmental neighborhood meeting to discuss the proposal with a particular focus on critical areas. The Applicant, City staff, and the Applicant's technical experts will be in attendance to answer questions and address concerns about the project.

Attached is the Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting for the project. Neighborhood meeting materials can be located at issaquahwa.gov/localproject. Other application materials can be reviewed on the City's website at issaquahwa.gov/development. Look for the parcel or search by its address and click on "View Related Documents and Permits" at the bottom of the left sidebar. Select the "Related Documents" tab to view the application materials. If you have any questions please contact me at cristinah@issaquahwa.gov or 425.739.7959.

Sincerely,

Cristina Haworth

Cristina Haworth, AICP | Issaquah Planning Consultant
Phone: 425.739.7959

Cristina Haworth

From: Michele Williams <mickiwms@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Thoughts about the upcoming meeting

I plan to attend the meeting on Wednesday, but I thought I would just email you my thoughts beforehand. As a former elementary principal, I have very serious concerns about the plans to build an elementary school right next to a high school along with a stadium and fields. My main concern is the limited driving space. There is one access road that teen drivers, busy parents, and young children will use to enter and exit the area. Students will have to be driven or ride the bus because there is no sidewalk to the area. So there is a combination of many people backing up on 228th and trying to get into the area at the same time.

I was told that the high school would have different hours from the elementary school, but I also know that both high school and elementary students will have many reasons to enter and exit school at all hours - band, orchestra, after-school detention, and daycare. The group I am working with (GAC) has great respect for you, Cristina, and think you are very fair. So. I hope you will consider my concerns. Thank you very much.

Cristina Haworth

From: Yvonne Ferden <photoangels@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: My spouse and I have lived here 11 years at Providence Point. We enjoy the peace and quiet. If you build 2 schools right next to our property, we will literally be surrounded by traffic. Has anyone in charge looked at an Ariel view of the area. ...

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Cristina Haworth

From: jeffpenny@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:02 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: ISD HS#4 & Elementary School #17

Dear Ms. Haworth:

I am a resident of Providence Point, Issaquah. I am very unhappy with the ISD's plans for a high school and elementary school. Especially with the high school having a stadium and track/baseball fields on the Providence Point borders at 4221 228th Ave SE when there is a stadium and track/baseball fields located 2.5 miles from this site at Skyline H.S. on 228th Ave SE.

The building of this stadium and track/baseball fields are a waste of tax payers money and will greatly impact Providence Point residents, a 55 plus community, as well as the environment, see below.

TRAFFIC. 228th Ave SE is only one lane and each way. With the cars and buses it will be an absolute nightmare, especially with Pine Lake Middle School on the corner of 228th SE and Issaquah Pine Lake. 228th will not be able to handle this traffic and either will the residents of Providence Pointe, Bellewood, and Marianwood!

TREES. The current site plan removes too many trees. These trees uptake excess stormwater, provide cooling shade, furnish visual buffers to adjacent areas and assist with noise attenuation. The trees on site also provide habitat for many bird and animal species. The proposal does not meet the minimum requirements for tree retention set by Issaquah codes.

WETLANDS. There is a wetland and treed area adjacent to Hilltop that will be retained as a part of the schools development. However, with huge amounts of new impervious surface, the hydrology of the area may change, resulting in too much or too little water impacting the wetlands and surrounding vegetation, possibly resulting in loss of both the wetland and its adjacent vegetation. Special care is necessary to assure the wetland is maintained and specific drainage plans should be required prior to any project approval.

LAUGHING JACOBS CREEK (LJC). The site plan indicates that stormwater from the site will be diverted from its natural path to flow to the east into Sammamish. This water, and that from the new intersection, will increase flows into LJC, including that stretch of the stream that flows through Forest Village in Providence Point. LJC provides spawning areas for the endangered Kokanee salmon, accordingly, changes in stream hydrology should be avoided. Specifications for stormwater regulation should be those of the City of Sammamish, which provide more protection than Issaquah's regulations.

STEEP SLOPES. There are several steep slopes that will be impacted by the proposal, including areas adjacent to 228th and LJC. Particular care must be followed for any work performed on or near these slopes.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT. The impacts to critical areas, combined with other environmental impacts, will result in significant impacts to the environment, requiring preparation of an environmental impact statement.

As a resident and tax payer of Issaquah, I am requesting that the Issaquah School District and the Issaquah City Council reconsider the building of the schools and especially the stadiums and track/baseball fields on this property. Two schools on this property will be a big impact on our lives and the environment.

Thank you,
Penny Milner
22535 SE 45th Lane, Issaquah
714-552-3906

Cristina Haworth

From: MD Jin <mdjin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:11 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting - ISD Providence Heights Proposal

Hi Cristina,

Thank you for your notice, but I still have some concerns as below:

(1) TREES: The current site plan removes too many trees. These trees uptake excess stormwater, provide cooling shade, furnish visual buffers to adjacent areas and assist with noise attenuation. The trees on site also provide habitat for many bird and animal species. The proposal does not meet the minimum requirements for tree retention set by Issaquah codes.

(2) WETLANDS: There is a wetland and treed area adjacent to Hilltop that will be retained as a part of the schools development. However, with huge amounts of new impervious surface, the hydrology of the area may change, resulting in too much or too little water impacting the wetlands and surrounding vegetation, possibly resulting in loss of both the wetland and its adjacent vegetation. Special care is necessary to assure the wetland is maintained and specific drainage plans should be required prior to any project approval.

(3) LAUGHING JACOBS CREEK: The site plan indicates that stormwater from the site will be diverted from its natural path to flow to the east into Sammamish. This water, and that from the new intersection, will increase flows into LJC, including that stretch of the stream that flows through Forest Village in Providence Point. Laughing Jacob Creek provides spawning areas for the endangered Kokanee salmon, accordingly, changes in stream hydrology should be avoided. Specifications for stormwater regulation should be those of the City of Sammamish, which provide more protection than Issaquah's regulations.

I appreciated your attention.

Best regards,

Maidong Jin

From: [Cristina Haworth](#)

Sent: 2021 年 4 月 16 日 9:12

To: [Cristina Haworth](#)

Subject: Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting - ISD Providence Heights Proposal

Good morning,

You are receiving this email because you previously commented on Issaquah School District's (ISD) proposal to construct a new consolidated high school and elementary school campus at 4221 228th Avenue SE or you have requested to become a party of record for future applications related to this proposal. As part of the review process for ISD's submitted permit applications, the City is hosting an environmental neighborhood meeting to discuss the proposal with a particular focus on critical areas. The Applicant, City staff, and the Applicant's technical experts will be in attendance to answer questions and address concerns about the project.

Attached is the Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting for the project. Neighborhood meeting materials can be located at issaquahwa.gov/localproject. Other application materials can be reviewed on the City's website at issaquahwa.gov/development. Look for the parcel or search by its address and click on "View Related Documents and Permits" at the bottom of the left sidebar. Select the "Related Documents" tab to view the application materials. If you have any questions please contact me at cristinah@issaquahwa.gov or 425.739.7959.

Sincerely,

PRJ19-00008 Attachment 084

Cristina Haworth

Cristina Haworth, AICP | Issaquah Planning Consultant

Phone: 425.739.7959

Cristina Haworth

From: Klina Dupuy <klinatravels@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:28 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Meeting Questions

I watched the Sammamish City Council meeting and several issues were raised regarding the new school site.

1. The traffic survey done by Sammamish indicated significant traffic issues on 228th Ave SE and SE 43rd Way. These include the need for turn lanes, sidewalks, bike paths and crosswalks. It appears the traffic survey done by ISD last year during covid grossly under-estimated the impact additional traffic. What do you propose to do to resolve the problem?
2. Why would high school students from Lakemont be bussed to Providence Heights? Certainly there are additional fuel costs and more traffic on SE 43rd Way from this decision.
3. There was recent information released regarding a \$22 million reduction in funding for ISD due to decreased enrollment. How can you justify spending money on an additional school in light of declining enrollment?
4. If the school is built, wouldn't a significant amount be saved by only adding a football practice field and using the stadiums nearby?

In the past these meetings seem to ignore answering questions from residents of the area and glossing over details. I hope the meeting on the 28th will not be a repeat of the same old thing.

Klina Dupuy
3661 224th Pl SE
Issaquah, WA 98029

Cristina Haworth

From: Nancy Volland <nvolland@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:46 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Environmental Neighborhood Meeting for Proposed ISD School Site.

I am submitting comments to the Environmental Neighborhood Meeting in regards to the various critical areas surrounding the proposed ISD school site.

Ever since I heard of this project, I have been very concerned about many issues. I am a resident at Providence Point, having moved here four years ago but visiting this area for past twenty years. As a retired teacher, I was happy to move to a beautiful, quiet community near my family.

I was shocked to see the plans ISD put together. Obviously the traffic is a nightmare on 228th already and having lived 3 blocks from a highschool, stadium and adjacent elementary school, I can attest to the noise level inspite of a tree barrier!

I am more shocked to see how this site will greatly impact our environment and ecosystem for evermore, if allowed to proceed without proper environmental impact studies.

I think about Laughing Jacobs Creek and the endangered salmon that spawn in the area. We are supposed to be protecting their habitat. In fact it's against the law not to protect the salmon in our state.

What about the hillsides? Where will all the storm water from this site go? It will impact all our surrounding areas, including possible flooding which is already a big problem on Eastlake Sammamish Way.

We are suppose to be vigilant and concerned about planting more trees to clean our air, to help curb climate change to protect our streams, fish and habitats for all the wildlife.

I know too about the wetland area near Hilltop Village and am concerned about the impacts on that neighborhood as well as surrounding areas.

My hope is that the city council will go forward with a full and comprehensive SEPA review. Our environment and future are at stake here. Once the damage has been done, it will be too late and things unfortunately will be changed forever.

Please all who are involved, do the right thing and not approve moving forward until all environmental impact studies are complete and reviewed by all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Nancy Volland, Providence Point.

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Cristina Haworth

From: Vicki Arnold <vra8888@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 5:56 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Comments Submission relative to Environmental Neighborhood Meeting April 28, 2021 (ISD High School #4 and Elementary School #17)

Dear City of Issaquah,

As the ISD was tasked by the Issaquah City Council to perform its own SEPA, I fully expect the ISD to determine DNS regardless of the real environmental impact facts, I, at least want to submit to you what I consider to be serious impacts I anticipate at my own 3rd floor home in Providence Point less than 300 ft from the school property line.

Most important to my future quality of life in Washington Village, are the anticipated myriad of negative effects of the ISD ignoring the overwhelming need to keep pre-existing stands of trees all around the edge of their property. Obviously, ISD has chosen to ignore these important trees so that it can pack the property to the hilt with its wish list of amenities no matter what the cost to the neighboring residents - the same residents the ISD initially told they would be good neighbors and would take our concerns to heart and mitigate negative impacts "as much as possible".. Some of us believed the ISD meant what they initially said. Little did we know they actually meant "as much as possible without changing one item on their site plan or long list of unrealistic amenities that will clearly overdevelop the property just because it can.

So, if I could illicit your support for just one item, change one item, it would be to keep the existing stands of mature trees along the edges of the property:

*The existing mature trees are the ONLY way we, in Providence near the property line, can avoid the very bright, high banks of lights overhead in the sports stadium and elsewhere. Nothing else on the property can mitigate the bright lights projecting straight into our bedroom and living room windows in my building which face almost due North. (I have years of experience with school ground lights directly facing my windows as I lived about the same distance from a High School in San Diego and the lights from their parking lot and racket ball courts were on every day till 10 PM). My family endured auto racing, lights, noise, exhaust, etc. for more than 40 years before moving to Issaquah for peace and quiet in retirement.

* The existing mature trees are the only thing high and dense enough to block the bus and auto exhaust fumes and debris from coming into my open windows. You probably are not aware that most residents in Washington Village do not have air conditioning in their units so they must rely on fans and open windows in the hottest weather. it is the only way to exchange stale air in their units. (While living in San Diego across from the school, there was so much continual black soot on my lawn furniture from auto/bus exhaust, the area was almost unusable.)

* The existing mature trees would certainly provide some noise mitigation from daily elementary recess noises as well as mitigation from stadium events' crowd noise and loudspeaker announcements. Both the elementary and high school will be backed up almost against the property line so any announcements will be clearly heard at my and other of our buildings.

* The existing mature trees are currently home for all manner of birds, insects that enrich the nature landscape with their presence. I awake most days to the sound of song birds. The trees are beautiful in various colors and shapes throughout all seasons. They are happy reminders of long life and overcoming the elements. They are our main view and give us joy.

* Anyone living in Providence adjacent to the school property is very aware of the raging wind episodes along the fence line that sound like a rumbling freight train. The existing trees soften and block some of the effects of the high speed winds even when the trees leaves are gone. Who knows what the winds will do when the stands of trees are removed?

So, dear Issaquah City Council, frankly speaking - The ISD has shown throughout this process that it has zero intention of mitigating any negative effects of plunking its school in the center of a senior citizen community - even knowing that yanking the 40+ ft trees and replacing them with 5ft plantings materially reduces the value of our homes and does great damage to our personal at-home lives. Their site plan doesn't even meet Issaquah minimum environmental requirements for the site. Council, If you to not intercede, ...Without mitigation - .between daily recess, stadium and other school

events, car/bus noise and fumes mornings, afternoons, weekends, loudspeakers, lights etc.....no senior living near the property will enjoy their last years in the peace and serenity they "bought here" - that the nuns secured here, that the City of Issaquah can take steps to protect according to its authority.

Please, please intercede on our behalf to save some of our quality of life. The ISD can make some small concessions to be an actual good neighbor.

Cristina Haworth

From: skndchanzs <skndchanzs@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 8:39 AM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Environmental Neighborhood Comments

Hello,

I would like to make the following comments related to the ISD school project proposal located near Providence Point:

1. TREES. The current site plan removes too many trees. These trees uptake excess stormwater, provide cooling shade, furnish visual buffers to adjacent areas and assist with noise attenuation. The trees on site also provide habitat for many bird and animal species. The proposal does not meet the minimum requirements for tree retention set by Issaquah codes.
2. WETLANDS. There is a wetland and treed area adjacent to Hilltop that will be retained as a part of the schools development. However, with huge amounts of new impervious surface, the hydrology of the area may change, resulting in too much or too little water impacting the wetlands and surrounding vegetation, possibly resulting in loss of both the wetland and its adjacent vegetation. Special care is necessary to assure the wetland is maintained and specific drainage plans should be required prior to any project approval.
3. LAUGHING JACOBS CREEK (LJC). The site plan indicates that stormwater from the site will be diverted from its natural path to flow to the east into Sammamish. This water, and that from the new intersection, will increase flows into LJC, including that stretch of the stream that flows through Forest Village in Providence Point. LJC provides spawning areas for the endangered Kokanee salmon, accordingly, changes in stream hydrology should be avoided. Specifications for stormwater regulation should be those of the City of Sammamish, which provide more protection than Issaquah's regulations.
4. STEEP SLOPES. There are several steep slopes that will be impacted by the proposal, including areas adjacent to 228th and LJC. Particular care must be followed for any work performed on or near these slopes.
5. TRAFFIC/PEDESTRIAN IMPACT. The use of a single entry/exit road has the potential to severely restrict emergency vehicles/equipment in the event of an emergency. The number of cars and buses associated with employee, student and parent arrival and departure times will severely impact the flow of traffic along a main thoroughfare leading between Issaquah and Sammamish. The intersection of Providence Point Dr SE and 228th Ave SE will become essentially 'locked in' during school arrival and departure times due to lack of a signal light. There are currently no designated pedestrian pathways between the proposed school site and neighboring residential areas.
6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT. The impacts to critical areas, combined with other environmental impacts, will result in significant impacts to the environment, requiring preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Sincerely,

Wendy Orcajo
3941 226th Pl SE
Issaquah, WA 98029

Cristina Haworth

From: Daniel Sreebny <dsreebny@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Cristina Haworth
Cc: Daniel Sreebny
Subject: Comment for April 28 Environmental Neighborhood Meeting on ISD Providence Heights Project

Dear Ms. Haworth:

I am writing to you because I am a resident of Issaquah, but will unfortunately not be able to attend the virtual April 28 Environmental Neighborhood Meeting due to a conflicting commitment. Instead, I am sharing my views with you, and hope you will give them careful consideration.

We all share a common desire to provide educational facilities that are safe, appropriate to the environment, and make the best use of taxpayer funding. Unfortunately, the Issaquah School District Providence Heights proposal:

- Will significantly harm the existing wetlands and natural environment.
- Will result in significant traffic congestion and noise pollution in neighboring residential areas.
- Will result in significant traffic congestion on 43rd Way and 228th Ave., without offering any alternative for commuters along these main transportation arteries.
- Will force local children to be transported along a busy and congested roadway, which could endanger their lives and the lives of others, with no provision for additional entry/exit routes or emergency access and evacuation options.
- Will waste taxpayers money on a stadium that is totally unnecessary, given the school stadiums located nearby; and on an elementary school, when the latest data strongly suggests that it will not be needed in terms of student numbers at that level.

For all of these important and relevant reasons, I strongly believe that the ISD project should either be rejected in total, or at least be modified to eliminate the proposed stadium, possibly eliminate the elementary school, and accept revisions to protect the environment and safety of commuters in the area.

Thank you for reading these comments, and for the work you are doing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Sreebny
22618 SE 44th Place
Issaquah, WA 98029
Phone: 703-943-7913
E-mail: Dsreebny@gmail.com

Cristina Haworth

From: Rowena Hall <rowiehall@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 12:42 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Building schools

Once more I will write what I think it is an AWFUL thought that two schools may be built on the acreage between Providence Point and Bellewood/Marianwood. I have lived in Providence Point for almost 12 years now and had thought of moving into Bellewood soon as I am approaching 86 years of age. I just don't think it is appropriate for these two schools to be built so close to all these facilities for the elderly and some of us a bit wobbly!!! The traffic morning and afternoon will be awful and dreadfully noisy and the after school sports also noisy as will be all the high schoolers who have their own cars. The new traffic lights that are soon to be operated at the main entrance to Prov. Point have helped to maybe make it safer for us oldies to go in and out of this retirement community but also a lot of the elderly will be awakened to the loud sound of the busses arriving and departing early in the morning/afternoon. I know you people are getting desperate to find land on which to build schools in and around Issaquah, we raised our four children who went through the Issaquah school system in the seventies and eighties. You guys should have been looking ahead more even then.

So I say once again. PLEASE DO NOT BUILD THOSE TWO SCHOOLS on the land between two communities for the elderly and sick. It is just NOT the right thing to do. DON'T DON'T do it PLEASE. The elderly deserve a peaceful last years of their lives.

Sincerely Rowena Hall.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Cristina Haworth

From: Fay Helmon <monnoe46@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 2:39 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: comments

TO: Cristina Haworth, Planning Consultant
ISD High School #4 & Elementary School #17

FROM: Mary Fay Helmon
3935 226th Place SE #310
Issaquah WA 98029
monnoe46@hotmail.com

SUBJECT: Comments and Questions - Environmental Neighborhood Meeting

DATE: April 27, 2021

I am an owner/resident at Providence Point. My comments continue to be similar to those I've submitted in the past. I am concerned about existing trees; drainage; Laughing Jacobs Creek/ Kokanee Salmon; air, water, and noise pollution; and traffic. **I also would like to have an answer to my question: What fencing is planned by ISD along the perimeter with Providence Point? I have asked this question before and not received an answer and was unable to find mention of this in ISD's documents.**

Trees. ISD's plans refer to saving "as many trees as possible" and yet in actuality, many existing trees will be removed and replaced by new plantings that will take years to provide the positive effects on the environment that large trees currently provide, such as visual buffers to adjacent areas, noise reduction, uptake of excess stormwater and animal habitat. I ask that the City of Issaquah withhold approval from ISD plans about trees that do not specifically save a higher percentage of existing trees than found in the latest plan.

Laughing Jacobs Creek/Kokanee Salmon. This critical waterway so important to the endangered Kokanee Salmon must be protected using the strongest measures possible. I would like to see protection provided by the City of Sammamish stormwater regulations rather than the City of Issaquah stormwater regulations because Sammamish has stronger regulations on this issue. The issue of protecting salmon goes way beyond city borders and the City of Issaquah should be a leader in this protection.

Air, water, and noise pollution. As a person interested in protecting our environment, and as an owner/resident at Providence Point, these concerns will affect me very personally. I ask that the City of Issaquah ensure that ISD provide the strongest possible restrictions on all types of pollution and that ISD complete a detailed environmental impact statement that doesn't gloss over serious environmental issues.

Traffic. I listened to a recent Sammamish City Council meeting where ISD traffic issues were discussed. The addition of pedestrians and 1000's of vehicles at the entrance/exit to the schools present major traffic engineering issues that will require cooperation between the City of Sammamish and the City of Issaquah to ensure that ISD's traffic plan is workable, and provides safety and as little disruption as possible for all users of

43rd Way/228th St. It is my understanding that this responsibility rests with the City of Issaquah in its approval of ISD's traffic plan.

PRJ19-00008 Attachment 084

Portables. I am concerned that ISD's plans for "subsequent phases" include an addition to the high school and portables for both the high school and the elementary school. Given the fact that current plans for buildings are stretching the use of the property to its limit, I would like to see the City of Issaquah require ISD to remove any plans for additional capacity in the future.

I ask again about the fencing between ISD property and Providence Point and request that this information be covered in the upcoming Neighborhood Meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Cristina Haworth

From: Carol Cohoe <Carol@aramburu-eustis.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Cc: Rick Aramburu
Subject: FW: Issaquah School District NM for Providence Heights proposal
Attachments: 20210427 to CHaworth re ENM.pdf

Cristina, re-sending to your city of Issaquah address.

Carol Cohoe, Legal Assistant
Law Offices of J. Richard Aramburu, PLLC
Please "REPLY ALL" to ensure that Mr. Aramburu also receives your response.

We are located in the Hoge Building at
705 Second Avenue, Suite 1300
Seattle, WA 98104-1797

Telephone (206) 625-9515 | Facsimile (206) 682-1376

This message may be protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privilege. If you received this message in error please notify us and destroy the message. Thank you.

From: Carol Cohoe
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:15 PM
To: cristina.haworth@otak.com
Cc: 'Rick (rick@aramburu-eustis.com)' <rick@aramburu-eustis.com>
Subject: Issaquah School District NM for Providence Heights proposal

Ms. Haworth,

Please accept the attached letter from Mr. Aramburu / Providence Point for the record and for use in the City review of this application.

Carol Cohoe, Legal Assistant
Law Offices of J. Richard Aramburu, PLLC
Please "REPLY ALL" to ensure that Mr. Aramburu also receives your response.

We are located in the Hoge Building at
705 Second Avenue, Suite 1300
Seattle, WA 98104-1797

Telephone (206) 625-9515 | Facsimile (206) 682-1376

This message may be protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privilege. If you received this message in error please notify us and destroy the message. Thank you.

705 Second Avenue, Suite 1300
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Telephone 206.625.9515
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www.aramburulaw.com
www.aramburu-eustis.com

April 27, 2021

Cristina Haworth
Planning Consultant
City of Issaquah
P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, WA 98027
at cristina.haworth@otak.com

Re: Environmental Neighborhood Meeting
Issaquah School District New High School and Elementary Schools at
Providence Heights Site

Dear Ms. Haworth:

I write today on behalf of the Providence Point Residential Community, located immediately adjacent to the property proposed by the Issaquah School District (ISD) for a new high school and elementary school. We have received a "Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting" ("ENM") scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on April 28, 2021 (virtual meeting).

From the Notice received, the purpose of the meeting is to "afford the community the opportunity to understand the proposal with particular focus on critical areas, generate discussion and raise issues before a decision is rendered." As you know, the Providence Point community has been intensively involved with permitting for this project for more than a year and a half, providing detailed information of a variety of aspects of the ISD proposal. We ask that you review all of this information as a part of your consideration of the environmental and critical area aspects of this proposal. We request you provide us your written responses to the content of this letter.

Providence Point comments and issues for the ENM, in no particular order, are as follows.

1. Is this meeting a required part of the critical area review under Issaquah codes?
2. When will the final environmental checklist be prepared for this proposal? When will a threshold determination for this proposal be prepared under SEPA?

April 27, 2021

Page 2

3. Does the review being undertaken of the environment and of critical areas include the impacts from the new intersection proposed by ISD on 228th Avenue S.E.?
4. ISD will retain a wetland located on the south boundary of the schools property. Please state the specific means and methods to be undertaken to preserve the hydrology of this wetland post-construction.
5. The intersection proposed at 228th appears to route stormwater to the east in areas within the City of Sammamish and into Laughing Jacobs Creek (LJC). Is this correct? Has ISD filed applications with the City of Sammamish to construct this intersection?
6. Is the City of Issaquah considering adverse environmental impacts to LJC from the construction of this proposal? Is it considering the environmental impacts from the intersection with 228th? Please identify or provide any reports and studies that consider such impacts.
7. This project appears to have probable significant impacts to the environment from the construction and operation of the schools and accessory uses on site, warranting the preparation of a Determination of Significance and thus an environmental impact statement under SEPA. Will the City of Issaquah recommend that an environmental impact statement be prepared for this project?
8. The Notice of the ENM states that required arborist studies will be discussed. It appears from prior reports that the applicant will be seeking an adjustment of City standards for tree retention on this site. Please state the support for such an "adjustment;" Providence Point believes that no adjustment or deviation from tree retention standards should be granted.
9. In general, the first step in preservation of critical areas is avoidance of the impacts. What steps has the City taken to avoid impacts on critical areas such as LJC and on-site wetlands? Has the City required that low-impact development techniques be installed to mitigate for stormwater impacts?
10. Does the City concede that the significant amount of impervious surface to be installed by ISD will greatly increase the volume of stormwater that is discharged downstream? Has the City or ISD quantified these impacts? Please provide references to any studies of these increases in total volume of water.
11. Has the City conducted any peer-review of the ISD studies on wetlands, wetland hydrology, arborist or stream impacts? If so, please provide these peer-review studies or references to them.

April 27, 2021

Page 3

12. We understand that, notwithstanding several requests, ISD has not yet filed an application with the City of Sammamish for the intersection improvements required to access this proposal on 228th Ave. S.E. This intersection will require excavation of steep slope areas west of 228th Ave. S.E. and the removal of mature trees. As the City is aware, the impervious surfaces created by this intersection will generate significant amounts of new stormwater runoff, which will require extensive detention facilities. This collected stormwater will likely be routed to the east into residential areas in the City of Sammamish and eventually into Laughing Jacobs Creek. No analysis of overall environmental impacts can occur until plans for this intersection are filed with Sammamish and carefully reviewed. ISD cannot piecemeal environmental review.

14. The Subsurface Exploration, Geologic Hazard, and Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Report, dated February 24, 2021 ("Geotech Report") contains two major deficiencies.

- First, there was no geologic analysis of any portion of the area of the proposed intersection on 228th Ave. S.E. It is likely that large underground stormwater vaults will be installed in this location given the lack of available land for surface detention ponds. Geologic analysis of this area should be complete, with a thorough review of existing conditions. Seepage and interflow, as described below, may also be apparent here. In addition, the traffic generated by the schools proposal may create the need for additional traffic improvements in Issaquah or Sammamish. The environmental consequences of such traffic improvement projects must be considered, including impacts on critical areas.
- Second, page 13 of the Geotech Report indicates that "moderately rapid groundwater seepage was observed in 11 of the AESI exploration pits." Some of this seepage was perched flows, known as "interflow." Much of the source area of this seepage and interflow will be covered with impervious surfaces under the ISD proposal. Cutting off this interflow could impact downslope areas (including Providence Point) and reduce stormwater infiltration; this impact should be carefully studied.

15. We understand that some portion of the buffer area may be put into a "conservation easement." Please provide additional information concerning such an easement, including its location, size, terms and potential grantee. Please provide any drafts or memos regarding such a conservation easement.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

/s/

J. Richard Aramburu

Cristina Haworth

From: Ron Imhoff <r3025i@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 8:38 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: New High School - Neighborhood meeting - environmental issues

I have some concerns regarding the development of the new high school and elementary school on the Providence Heights property:

- 1) Until the Laughing Jacob Creek Study funded by Sammamish and Issaquah is completed, it is difficult or impossible to know the negative impact the storm water runoff will have on the Creek. What is the status of that study and how is this project addressing the impacts to the creek and to any plans that study will propose?
- 2) It appears that a CARA (Critical Aquifer Recharge Area) is part of the property, but the Neighborhood Meeting – File No. PRJ19-00008 on page 3 seems to say that a study is not required because of IMC 18.10.410(B). What director gave the waiver for that requirement?

Thank you for considering these concerns.

Ron Imhoff
3935 226th Place SE
Issaquah, WA 98029

Cristina Haworth

From: Guy Moellendorf <gvm98042@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 1:57 PM
To: CPD [External]; Cristina Haworth
Subject: ISD High School#4 & Elementary School #17;

Re: File NO: PRJ19-00008/SDP20-00001/MSP20-00001; Public Input

Summary: On the School-side of the woodland buffer, a high Fence or wall that prevents climb over and entry is needed so students cannot enter the buffer except as permitted by locked gates.

The woodland buffer zone is between school and Providence Point fence line. Some kids before/after school, skip classes, hide in the bushes, start fires, alcohol, drugs, fights, stabbings, shootings, garbage. Needed is a "school-side fence/wall" very tall to prevent climb-over/entry and the school should build it. Gates to allow entry as needed. Terraced retaining walls act like ladders, and must have a barrier at the top preventing entry. Otherwise the buffer becomes a hideout and maintenance problem.

Providence Point Resident, email: gvm98042@gmail.com.

Cristina Haworth

From: Larry Franks <pearsonfr@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 2:22 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Issaquah School District High School #4 and Elementary School #17 Critical Area Concerns

Ms. Haworth:

I note with distress that in the "SPECIFIC CRITICAL AREA INFORMATION" 'Streams' is not checked. This proposed project will significantly impact Laughing Jacobs Creek, one of the very few Lake Sammamish basin streams supporting a bare remnant of native kokanee. Every effort should be taken by the project planners to not impact this rare and endangered fish.

Thanks for your consideration,

Larry Franks
BS Fisheries (Salmonid Culture) UW 1979
24001 SE 103rd St.
Issaquah, WA 98027-8325

Landline: 425.392.2571
Cell: 425.922.9754

Cristina Haworth

From: m <laff_n_live@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 4:42 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Environmental Comments, HS #4

Many groups have raised concerns about the environmental impacts of the new high school. Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery, the Lake Sammamish Kokanee group (working with Trout Unlimited) question how the artificial surface in the football stadium will affect Lake Sammamish salmon. How will ISD's plans for such a significant amount of impervious surface will affect Lake Sammamish, the very lake where Issaquah children play? The Washington State Parks "Hans Jensen Youth Group Camp", which is located at the bottom of Laughing Jacob's Creek, has expressed concern with runoff and pollution for children as well! Surely ISD can prioritize maintaining a healthy natural environment for students, staff, teachers, neighbors, and the community as a whole.

The plan as it is designed now substitutes a natural forest with facsimile environment; fallen trees help with retaining stormwater runoff and erosion of neighboring and downstream properties. In an ironic twist, the District's architect stated in July 2020 that "there is bark like texture on the exterior of the buildings to mimic the bark of a tree", and "We can't really save a tree if it impacts the softball field". Surely ISD doesn't believe this.

The City of Issaquah's commissioners on both the Planning Commission and the Development Commission have raised very reasonable questions about trying to fit too much onto this site. The District has been asked to downsize their plans repeatedly. During the July 15, 2020 Community Conference, the Applicant repeatedly stressed that they were "challenged with space because of the lack of flat areas" and flat-out stated that they faced "multiple topographic challenges". Yet the previous school on the site, the Providence Heights College, fit classrooms, administrative offices, dormitories, an auditorium, a cafeteria, a library, an indoor pool, a gym, and a chapel onto the site and into only **210,000 square feet**— and still kept the natural setting intact. Surely ISD can do the same.

We've seen how too much on too small of a site has affected traffic, with its oil and exhaust affecting the community with Pine Lake Middle School, where traffic backs up dangerously onto 228th. While other developed countries students' commute to school on electric buses, ISD's proposal is for more than 750 vehicle parking spaces and 60 for diesel buses. The Applicant has even stated that their design gives buses the right-of-way in the parking lot, because **"Stop signs will incentivize people to take buses."** Surely ISD can incentivize students with more realistic solutions.

Ironically, this site is perfect for Environmental Sciences, projected to grow significantly: "Employment of environmental scientists and specialists is projected to grow 8 percent from 2018

to 2028, **faster** than the average for all occupations” (<https://www.bls.gov/occup/life-physical-and-social-science/environmental-scientists-and-specialists.htm#tab-6>)

PRJ19-00008 Attachment 084

The District and its Architects have an opportunity here to use this site to build *for the future*, not *of the past*. Surely the cities of Issaquah and Sammamish, the Issaquah School Board and Superintendent, and the Issaquah City Council can set an example by designing and building on this unique building site as a model for future generations. Be innovative!

Mary Deraitus
4133 224th Lane SE
Issaquah, WA 98029

Cristina Haworth

From: Dave Zonavich <zanavich@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 5:24 PM
To: CPD [External]; Cristina Haworth; frontdesk@sammamish.us
Cc: Dave Zonavich; scott.lindley22@gmail.com; shawnbro79@hotmail.com
Subject: ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL #4 & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #17
Attachments: ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL #4 & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #17.pdf

cpd@issaquahwa.gov
cristinah@issaquahwa.gov
zanavich@hotmail.com
frontdesk@sammamish.us
scott.lindley22@gmail.com
shawnbro79@hotmail.com

AGENDA

Neighborhood Meeting - Environmental

6:30 PM - Wednesday, April 28, 2021
Virtual Meeting

ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL #4 & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #17
Permit Numbers: PRJ19-00008 / SDP20-00001 / MSP20-00001
Address: 4221 228th Avenue SE, Issaquah, WA 98027
Parcel Numbers: 1624069001

Community Planning & Development

Physical Address

1775 12th Avenue NW
Issaquah, WA 98027

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, WA 98027
Phone: [425-837-3100](tel:425-837-3100)
Fax: 425-837-3109
cpd@issaquahwa.gov

Christina Haworth, Planning Consultant
425-739-7959

cristinah@issaquahwa.gov

April 28th, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in to present my concerns and ideas for this school project. My focus is on the east side of the project on 228th Ave SE, from SE 40th ST to the transition to SE 43rd WAY, which takes you down the hill to Providence Point community.

1. Steep Slopes: East side of property running along 228th Ave SE.

-The Ground Water from this slope perks under the roadway and builds up on the east side of 228th Ave SE, starting at SE 40th St (Sammamish Highlands Development) and continues to get worse heading south on 229th AVE SE, affecting the home owners that backup to 228th Ave SE.

-The Surface Water, of the roadway on the east and west side of 228th Ave SE, starting at SE 40th St (Sammamish Highlands Development) and continues to get worse heading south. The west ditch along 228th Ave SE drains under 228th Ave SE through a large pipe, and enters the Sammamish Highlands Neighborhood on the Eastside, at the North side of 4019 229th Ave SE property, and flows through the neighborhood.

Concerns:

-Ground and Surface water is going to get worse with the widening of 228th Ave SE to four lanes. Sidewalks and road drainage and redirect will help.

2. Main Entrance and Traffic Light onto 228th Ave SE

-What is going to protect Sammamish Highlands residents from runaway vehicles, coming out of the school and entering the 228th Ave SE roadway?

-Safety barriers at the light to prevent vehicle accidents to residential homes?

-What is going to be done with the increase road noise from the widening of 228th Ave SE and the increased school traffic and congestion?

-Tall decorative Noise Walls need to be placed along the East side of 228th Ave SE, starting at SE 40th ST to the start of SE 43rd WAY, Just like the project currently going on the I-90 Highway from Issaquah to Eastgate.

-Increased traffic cutting through the Sammamish Highlands Neighborhood, at SE 40th St, is already terrible! What is the plan to reduce this concern? Speed Bumps, which has been suggested and turned down for the last 20 years? How is this neighborhood going to enter onto 228th Ave SE with the increase in traffic? Traffic Light at 228th Ave SE/SE 40th St?

The roadway improvements don't seem to be in this batch of information. The water concerns are important to the residents living on the Eastside of 228th Ave SE, and as the neighborhood road slope increases from SE 40th ST and south, so does the water perking problems.

Thank you for your time to review these concerns,

David Zavanich

4019 229th Ave SE

Sammamish, WA 98075

425-503-2225

zanavich@hotmail.com

PRJ19-00008 Attachment 084

Cristina Haworth

From: Irene Rice <irenearice@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:47 AM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Environmental Neighborhood meeting Apr 28

I was able to connect to the meeting by computer but could not connect to the audio. I was able to see the participants and the materials they were presenting but without sound it was not possible understand what they were presenting. I hoped to find a recording of the event so I could review it after the fact. It is very frustrating to know that a meeting was held to inform the neighbors but not to have the opportunity to receive the information.

Irene Rice

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Cristina Haworth

From: Patricia Bice <pat@thejohnstons.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 11:07 AM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Providence Heights property

Cristina: I will appreciate your forwarding my comments to the appropriate Issaquah School District and City Council members.

A letter dated September 4, 2020 from the City of Sammamish to Thomas C. Mullins, Director of Capital Projects, Issaquah School District, states numerous concerns, many of them environmental, with the overcrowded school site plan for the Providence Heights property.

The letter suggests removal of some sports facilities, especially the stadium, from the proposed campus, and improving existing facilities at Issaquah High School and nearby Skyline High School to accommodate sharing with the new schools. Such sharing would require cooperative scheduling and transportation, of course. But it could work.

Removal of these sports facilities would allow some existing mature trees to remain, and planting of more to provide a buffer along the border of Providence Point. It is expected that it also could ease some environmental concerns such as stormwater management.

I urge the Issaquah School District to consider this idea. Thank you. Most Sincerely, Patricia A. Bice

Cristina Haworth

From: Carol Cohoe <Carol@aramburu-eustis.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 4:11 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Cc: Rick Aramburu
Subject: ISD Providence Heights school proposal NM21-00002
Attachments: NM Comment 2 to CHaworth 20210429.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello again, Cristina, please accept this additional comment for review and for the record from Mr. Aramburu regarding the ISD application.

Carol Cohoe, Legal Assistant
Law Offices of J. Richard Aramburu, PLLC
Please "REPLY ALL" to ensure that Mr. Aramburu also receives your response.

We are located in the Hoge Building at
705 Second Avenue, Suite 1300
Seattle, WA 98104-1797
Telephone (206) 625-9515 | Facsimile (206) 682-1376

This message may be protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privilege. If you received this message in error please notify us and destroy the message. Thank you.

LAW OFFICES OF J. RICHARD ARAMBURU PLLC

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Seattle, WA 98104-1797
Telephone 206.625.9515
Facsimile 206.682.1376

www.aramburulaw.com
www.aramburu-eustis.com

April 29, 2021

Cristina Haworth
Planning Consultant
City of Issaquah
P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, WA 98027
at cristina.haworth@otak.com

Cristina,

On April 27, 2021, I provided written comments for the City's "Environmental Neighborhood Meeting" ("ENM") which was held (virtually) on April 28, 2021. The notice for the ENM stated that written comments would be accepted until Thursday, April 29, 2021.

Consistent with the notice, I write to provide supplemental comments for the ENM, especially referencing input and discussion during last night's virtual meeting. These comments are included below.

1. LACK OF COMPLETE APPLICATION. Testimony from the District at the meeting indicates that no land use or right-of-way application has been filed for road improvements on 228th Ave. S.E.; such work will be necessary for access to the schools. The property (right-of-way) necessary for this work is under the jurisdiction of the City of Sammamish. Indeed, Sammamish requested that ISD provide an application for roadway improvements as far back as September. The preliminary design for these street improvements was shown on ISD's "Overall Site and Circulation Plan" dated May 20, 2019, so there is no excuse for not completing an application for this work before now.

Moreover, environmental review under SEPA must include all elements of a project and cannot be bifurcated or segmented into individual parts; the entire project must be considered. Here, the schools proposal cannot proceed without the installation of an intersection on 228th Ave. S.E., a major project in its own right, creating substantial traffic and transportation impacts on a "Gateway" to the City of Sammamish. In addition, the intersection has major non-transportation impacts, including generation of stormwater, pollutants and other impacts. Indeed, at last night's meeting ISD conceded that the new intersection, and the traffic impacts from the nearly 3,000

April 29, 2021

Page 2

people a day that will populate the site, will have a "ripple" effect on other roadways/intersections in Sammamish, which are not yet fleshed out.

SEPA requires an analysis of the *cumulative impacts* of a proposal. These impacts can only be reviewed after the submission of a complete application. The City of Issaquah should suspend further environmental review pending receipt of a complete application for the entire project, including the 228th Ave. S.E. road and intersection improvements.

2. NEED FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. The key aspect for review of proposals that impact critical areas is whether the impact can be avoided. This requires a careful look to determine whether certain project elements can be eliminated.

In the present case, numerous commenters have questioned the need for the elementary school. The most recent District Capital Improvement Plan shows flat enrollment for elementary students over the next several years. In addition, within the past month, the District has reported "huge declines" (its term) in enrollment (exceeding 8%), which are expected to continue. Not building the elementary school will not only save taxpayers funds, but significantly reduce traffic to the site, with attendant benefits.

A careful – and objective – review of the need for the elementary school should be required.

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of these comments. Please provide a written response to these questions and those found in our initial comment letter of April 27, 2021.

Sincerely,

/s/

J. Richard Aramburu

JRA:cc

cc: Clients

Cristina Haworth

From: Klina Dupuy <klinatravels@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 5:48 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Re: Notice of Environmental Neighborhood Meeting - ISD Providence Heights Proposal

Is the meeting available to view?

Thanks,

Klina Dupuy

> On Apr 16, 2021, at 9:12 AM, Cristina Haworth <cristinah@issaquahwa.gov> wrote:
>
> <PRJ19-00008_Critical Area Neighborhood Meeting FINAL Notice_2021-0415.pdf>

Cristina Haworth

From: Yvonne Ferden <photoangels@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 8:06 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Subject: Issaquah School at Providence Heights

My spouse and I have lived here 11 years at Providence Point. We enjoy the peace and quiet. If you build 2 schools right next to our property, we will literally be surrounded by traffic. Has anyone in charge looked at an Ariel view of the area.

Cristina Haworth

From: Timothy R. Brown <browntr2@zoho.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 1, 2021 1:49 PM
To: Cristina Haworth
Cc: osmerdavw; Mary Lou Pauly
Subject: Comments on April 28 Environmental Neighborhood Meeting

To: Cristina Haworth

On the evening of April 28, I remotely attended the Environmental Neighborhood Meeting concerning the Issaquah School District (ISD) proposal to build a high school and an elementary school on the Providence Heights property. The meeting was sponsored by the City of Issaquah.

I was disappointed in the meeting content and presentations by the District. Whole sections of the materials provided by the City electronically were illegible and ISD presenters were unprepared for serious questions. Over and over District presenters would not answer questions. Instead they would say, "We are still working on this," or something similar. By their own publicly shared materials, they have been working on this since at least the fall of 2018, two and a half years. This would seem to be enough time to answer the type of questions asked.

I don't have space to list all the deficient ISD materials, but I will give a few examples. The Geotechnical Report in development since November 2018 is still only preliminary because ISD did not provide project plans and construction details to the engineers when it was updated in February 2021. Are these things still unknown or simply not provided? When will we know? In the Critical Area Study Wetland C is stated to be completely removed and the form is checked that code is met, thus completed. Yet, the District still has not provided the required data proving that the removal is "both unavoidable and necessary." The SEPA Environmental Checklist contains limited information about what will be done to protect the environment. Instead a reader is given broad bland statements whose adequacy cannot be assessed such as groundwater will not be discharged into the ground and that run off will be collected in catch basins. These are seemingly broadly reassuring, but the real issues are how adequate are the systems and how much water will be run off and where will it go. Actual numbers and locations would be helpful.

To me the greatest single failure in the ISD materials is the Updated Arborist Report. Permit me to quote the rationale for tree removal found in the Summary of Findings:

Most of the western red cedars, many of the firs, hemlocks, Bigleaf maples, cottonwoods, and alders are declining largely because of the recent dryer years and environmental pressures we are seeing in our forested areas now because of the shift in weather patterns. Based on this rationale, the arborist recommends that 2,185 of the 2,847 trees on site be removed, 82%. His argument is that Global Warming has so stressed the trees that nearly all on site are so damaged they need to be removed. It is not clear to me if he is arguing that 82% of all the traditional major trees in Western Washington would need to be removed or that Global Warming has struck Providence Heights especially severely. In either case it does not pass the straight face test. My opinion is that Providence Heights is not unique. The forest here is actually

the same as traditional forests throughout Western Washington, somewhat stressed by Global Warming, the new normal, but certainly not subject to wholesale removal. If the City accepts the Global Warming rationale, in my opinion, it is creating such a precedent that it would make the City's tree removal ordinances essentially moot. Any future developer could make a similar claim for wholesale tree removal.

During the meeting on the 28th, I called in to comment about the Arborist Report. I made similar points as I have just above. I was immediately challenged that the 82% tree removal number was no longer being used and revisions were being made in the number of trees to be removed. Moreover, it was mentioned that the City is considering getting another arborist to assist. If I had not brought the issue of the Report difficulties up, they never would have been mentioned even though the ISD presenters and the City staff knew the numbers were incorrect. I thought I had been sent the most current information, but I had not. This raises the issue of what the City's role is here as a source of information to the general public. Does the City of Issaquah simply send out whatever ISD gives them and that's it?

On this same topic, I listened to the recent Sammamish City Council meeting and learned that there were serious questions about traffic data reported by ISD. Sammamish has conducted its own traffic study and found significantly more traffic than found in the District's study. This again did not come up in the 28th meeting. In fact the ISD presenters still kept using the District's traffic data to answer questions minimizing the concerns brought up by callers.

I found the Sammamish City Council meeting to be a real eye opener. City staff had met with ISD staff the day before. They reported that the information provided by ISD had been skimpy and the traffic data very questionable. There was a long free ranging discussion with Councilmembers showing a surprising knowledge of the issues. They plan to keep working in good faith with the District, but will push ISD to be more forthcoming. There, however, was concern ISD could issue the final environmental report, not giving time for the Council itself to respond. Therefore the Council authorized the City Manager to respond for the City without the Council's approval if time doesn't permit. They seem to have a good grasp of the issues and plans to engage ISD.

The issue I am attempting to raise is, will the City of Issaquah be more balanced in the future presentations? Will you obtain and share the City of Sammamish traffic study? From what I heard in response to my comment at the 28th meeting, Issaquah staff are analyzing ISD materials and, perhaps, doing their own studies. Will you make public what the City has found? Providence Point has hired several expert consultants who are also writing reports about the proposed schools. Would you ask if PP will make them available to you for presentation? I had hoped and expected that the City of Issaquah would seek to be objective in this process. So far the information you have given out has been one sided. Your only attempt at balance is to rely on private citizens to raise issues. Citizen input is useful, but it hardly matches the onslaught of reports that ISD produces.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Timothy R. Brown
Issaquah, Washington

Sent using [Zoho Mail](#)